



## United States Department of the Interior

U.S. GEOLOGICAL SURVEY  
5522 Research Drive Park  
Baltimore, Maryland 21228

In Reply Refer To:  
U.S. Geological Survey  
Attention: Freedom of Information Act Officer  
5522 Research Park Drive  
Baltimore, Maryland 21228

October 31, 2018

U.S. Environmental Protection Agency  
Attention: Mr. Larry Gottesman  
National Freedom of Information Act Officer  
1301 Constitution Avenue, NW  
Room 6416 West  
Washington, D.C. 20004  
[FOIA\\_HQ@epa.gov](mailto:FOIA_HQ@epa.gov) / [Gottesman.larry@epa.gov](mailto:Gottesman.larry@epa.gov)

*Transmitted by electronic mail*

Re: U.S. Geological Survey Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) FOIA Tracking # 2017-00160 – Referral of Records

Dear Mr. Gottesman:

While processing a Freedom of Information Act request from Ms. Megan Hinkle Huynh, Southern Environmental Law Center, dated July 11, 2017, the U.S. Department of the Interior, U.S. Geological Survey (USGS) located approximately 700 pages of records that substantially concern the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency.

The records are comprised of 400 pages of emails with eight attachments. The attachments contain about 70 records, approximately 280 pages. Most of the records originated with the EPA; however, there are numerous USGS graphs which are included for context. The enclosed portable document format (PDF) file, 2017-00160 – Records\_Combined.pdf, contains most of the records for your review, along with two “Final Draft” documents contained in the Attachments file. We have included recommendations for redactions under FOIA Exemption 3 and FOIA Exemption 6. We have no other objections to a release in full.

In addition to the files for review, we have included a copy of the original request. On July 17, 2017, we granted Ms. Hinkle Huynh fee waiver. We will notify Ms. Hinkle Huynh that she will receive a direct response from your office for the enclosed records.

If you have any questions about this referral, please contact Ms. Janis Wilson at (303) 236-1476, or by email at [jewilson@usgs.gov](mailto:jewilson@usgs.gov) or [foia@usgs.gov](mailto:foia@usgs.gov).

Sincerely,

**BRIAN MAY**

Digitally signed by BRIAN MAY  
Date: 2018.10.31 11:56:18  
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Brian A. May  
Freedom of Information Act Officer

Enclosures

2017-00160 – Records\_Combined.pdf (461 pages)  
EPA Referral Records (73 electronic records, 3.3 MB)